

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This application is under final rejection. Applicant has presented arguments hereinbelow that Applicant believes should render the claims allowable. In the event, however, that the Examiner is not persuaded by Applicant's arguments, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the amendment to clarify issues upon appeal.

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated May 20, 2004. Claims 1-8, 10-13 and 15-18 are pending. Claims 1-8, 10-13, and 15-18 are rejected. Claim 16 has been amended. No claims have been canceled. Accordingly, claims 1-8, 10-13, and 15-18 remain pending in the present application.

Claims 1-8, 10-13, and 15-18 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-15 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,732,172. Accordingly, Applicant submits a terminal disclaimer herewith. With the terminal disclaimer, the Examiner's rejection is traversed.


Claim 16 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate thereof. Applicant acknowledges the error is the amendment to claim 16, and has further amended claim 16 to correct the error. Claim 16 was erroneously amended to claim a method and has been corrected to claim a computer readable medium with program instructions. With this amendment, the Examiner's objection is traversed.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-8, 10-13, and 15-18 are patentable. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims as now presented.

Applicants' attorney believes this application in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date


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